

ANNOUNCING THE HIGH PRIORITY, SHORT-TERM PROJECT AWARD (R56)

RELEASE DATE: June 15, 2004

NOTICE: NOT-OD-04-047

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

(<http://www.niaid.nih.gov>)

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

(<http://www.nci.nih.gov>)

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)

(<http://www.niaaa.nih.gov>)

National Center on Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM)

(<http://www.nccam.nih.gov>)

National Institute on Aging (NIA)

(<http://www.nia.nih.gov>)

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)

(<http://www.niehs.nih.gov>)

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)

(<http://www.niddk.nih.gov>)

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)

(<http://www.nida.nih.gov>)

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS)

(<http://www.niams.nih.gov>)

NIH announces the new NIH High Priority, Short-Term Project Award (R56). R56 grants will be awarded beginning in Fiscal Year 2005.

The new R56 grant will fund, for one or two years, high-priority new or competing renewal R01 applications that fall just outside the limits of funding of the participating NIH Institutes and Centers.

INVESTIGATORS MAY NOT APPLY FOR AN R56 GRANT. Recipients of R56 awards will be selected by IC staff from R01 applications that fall at or near the payline margins

Additional information is available at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/r56.htm>

DESCRIPTION

The R56 Award will provide limited, interim research support based on the merit of a pending application. The R56 will enable an applicant to gather additional data for revision of a new or competing renewal application. R56 funding will end after one or two years or when the applicant succeeds in obtaining traditional project funding. The High Priority, Short-Term Project Awards will underwrite highly meritorious applications with funds that can range up to initial review group recommended levels.

The R56 award will help early career stage scientists trying to establish research careers as well as more experienced scientists who just miss getting funded. The R56 will provide interim funding while they revise their applications.

FEATURES

- A. The R56 grant will be available to domestic R01 applicants only.
- B. Investigators may not apply for an R56 grant.
- C. Competing R01 applications prepared and submitted in accordance with NIH procedures will be peer reviewed and assigned a priority score and in most cases a percentile rating. Nominees for the R56 will come from the R01 applications pending for the current fiscal year. Nominees for the award must be in the most meritorious half of the priority or percentile range. Previously approved, but inactivated, applications from this time period may be considered and if awarded will be converted to an R56.
- D. The awards may be funded up to the IRG recommended and Council approved levels and indirect costs will be provided at the negotiated rate.
- E. R56 awardees will be encouraged to submit a revision of their original competing application at the earliest convenient date to be considered for future funding. Applicants are reminded that the limitations on time and the number of amendments described at <http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-03-041.html> apply to all subsequent revisions.
- F. If a revised competing application is funded while an R56 award is active, the balance of the R56 Award will be deducted from the approved amount of the competing award.
- G. A final progress report, final financial status report, and final invention statement (HHS 568) will be required 90 days after the end of the R56 grant period. The progress report must identify those portions of the original proposal pursued with the R56 Award. If the awardee is successful with a subsequent application, the progress report in the revised application will suffice as a progress report for the R56 Award and a final invention statement will not be required.

REVIEW CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES

NIH staff, initial review groups, and the institute and Center Advisory Councils and Boards will review R01 applications in the usual manner. Program administrators will identify and nominate applications near the payline for conversion to an R56. Awards will be selected based on the scientifically creative and innovative approaches that meet the mission of the Institute or Center.

INQUIRIES

For information concerning the new R56 Award, contact:

PARTICIPATING NIH INSTITUTES

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID)

Allan Czarra

Deputy Director, DEA, NIAID, NIH, DHHS

Room 2140

6700-B Rockledge Drive - MSC 7610

Bethesda, MD 20892-7610

For express deliveries, use ZIP code 20817-7610

Phone: (301) 496-7291

FAX: (301) 402-0369

E-mail: aczarra@niaid.nih.gov

Website: <http://www.niaid.nih.gov>

National Cancer Institute (NCI)

Christopher L. Hatch, Ph.D.

Chief, Program Coordination and Referral Branch

Division of Extramural Activities

National Cancer Institute

6116 Executive Blvd., Room 8047

Bethesda, MD 20892-8329

Rockville, MD 20852 (for express/courier delivery)

Phone: 301-594-1403

Fax: 301-402-0275

Email: hatchc@mail.nih.gov

Website: <http://www.nci.nih.gov>

National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA)

Kenneth R. Warren, Ph.D.

Director, Office of Scientific Affairs

5635 Fishers Lane

Bethesda, MD 20892-1705

Phone: 301-443-5494

Fax: 301-443-7043

Email: kwarren@mail.nih.gov

Website: <http://www.niaaa.nih.gov>

National Center on Complementary and Alternative Medicine (NCCAM)

Richard L. Nahin, Ph.D., MPH
Senior Advisor for Scientific Coordination and Outreach
National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine
9000 Rockville Pike
Bldg. 31, Rm. 2B11
MSC 2182
Bethesda, MD 20892-2182
phone: 301-496-7801
fax: 301-435-6549
email: nahinr@mail.nih.gov
Website: <http://www.nccam.nih.gov>

National Institute on Aging (NIA)
Dr. Miriam F. Kelty, Ph.D
Associate Director, Extramural Activities
7201 Wisconsin Ave, Room 2C218, MSC 2292
Bethesda, MD 20892
Phone: 301-496-9322
Fax: 301-402-2945
Email: mk46u@nih.gov
Website: <http://www.nia.nih.gov>

National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS)
Anne P. Sassaman
Director, Division of Extramural Research and Training
National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
National Institutes of Health
P.O. Box 12233
Research Triangle Park, NC. 27709
Phone: (919) 541-7723
Fax: (919) 541-2843
Email: sassaman@niehs.nih.gov
Website: <http://www.niehs.nih.gov>

National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK)
Joyce A. Hunter, Ph.D.
Deputy Director
Division of Extramural Activities
National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases
Two Democracy Plaza, Room 714
6707 Democracy Boulevard
Bethesda, MD 20892-5456
Phone: (301) 594-0056

Fax: (301) 480-4125
Email: jh602o@nih.gov
Website: <http://www.niddk.nih.gov>

National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA)
Teresa Levitin, Ph.D.
Director, Office of Extramural Affairs
6101 Executive Blvd, Room 220 MSC 8401
Bethesda, MD 20892-8401
Phone: 301 443-2755
Fax: 303 443-0538
Email: TL25u@nih.gov
Website: <http://www.nida.nih.gov>

National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases (NIAMS)
Cheryl A. Kitt, Ph.D.
Director, Extramural Program
National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases
NIH, DHHS
One Democracy Plaza
6701 Democracy Blvd., Room 804
Bethesda, MD 20892-4872
Tel: 301-594-2463
Fax: 301-480-4543
Email: kittc@mail.nih.gov
Website: <http://www.niams.nih.gov>

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Department of Health
and Human Services



National Institutes of Health (NIH)
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20892